

MEMORANDUM

2474

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

CONFIDENTIAL

INFORMATION

May 3, 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. KISSINGER

FROM: WILLIAM L. STEARMAN

SUBJECT: CIA Interpretation of People's Daily  
Editorial on Indochina

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE  
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

Yesterday you expressed interest in a recent CIA analysis (Tab A) of a People's Daily editorial (Tab B) which allegedly indicates that Peking "is urging greater moderation on its allies." Actually this editorial is fairly consistent with the line Peking has taken on Indochina for the past 2 years or so and represents nothing very new. While CIA has lifted some quotes to prove its point, other quotes from the same article could be used to prove the opposite. For example, the article:

-- Praises the military progress of the "CPNLAF" (Khmer Communist insurgent force), noted with satisfaction that Phnom Penh is "surrounded on all sides" and that Sihanouk's trip to Cambodia has "speeded up the total collapse of the traitorous Lon Nol clique";

-- Called upon the three countries in Indochina to "wage a serious struggle" and expressed the conviction that "through strengthening unity, supporting each other and persisting in struggle, the three Indochinese peoples will certainly be able to realize their sacred national aspirations."

It should also be noted that the article's repeated praise of "Indochinese amity" indirectly supports Hanoi hegemony in Indochina, since Peking must be well aware of Hanoi's control of those Laotians and Cambodians presently engaged in the "struggle."

MORI/CDF  
C05141339

CONFIDENTIAL

GDS by Auth Stearman, 1979

**Page Denied**

**Page Denied**

I. 25 Apr 73

A 2

PRC

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

At present, great changes have taken place in the situation in Indochina. With the signing of the Paris agreement on Vietnam, the United States has been made to withdraw its armed forces from Vietnam and terminate its war of aggression in Vietnam. With the signing of the Agreement on Restoring Peace and Achieving National Concord by the two sides in Laos, conditions have been created for the Lao people to settle their internal affairs free from foreign interference. The patriotic armed forces and people of Cambodia have continually won inspiring and resounding victories in their valiant fighting to punish the traitorous Lon Nol clique. We are firmly convinced that the heroic Cambodia, Lao and Vietnamese peoples, further enhancing their unity and supporting and assisting each other, will surmount all difficulties and obstacles in their road of advance and realize their respective noble national aspirations.

The Chinese people and the three Indochinese peoples are close brothers, sharing weal and woe. We Chinese people have always regarded your struggles as our own struggles and your victories our own victories. We will forever stand by you and resolutely support and assist your just cause until complete victory.

Tung Pi-wu, acting chairman of the People's Republic of China;

Chou En-lai, premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China

Peking, April 24, 1973.

#### PEOPLE'S DAILY 25 Apr Editorial

Peking NCNA in English 0135 GMT 25 Apr 73 B

[Text] Peking, April 25, 1973 (HSINHUA)--The PEOPLE'S DAILY carries an editorial today entitled: "Three Years of Solidarity, Fighting and Victory". The editorial reads in full:

Today is the third anniversary of the Indochinese Peoples' Summit Conference. In the excellent situation of the splendid victories won by the three Indochinese peoples in the war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation, the Chinese people extend with boundless joy the warmest congratulations to the fraternal people of the three countries in Indochina.

The Indochinese Peoples' Summit Conference of great historic significance was a conference of solidarity, fighting and victory of the three Indochinese peoples. This conference was held under the circumstances when the traitorous Lon Nol clique launched the reactionary coup d'etat in Cambodia and the United States expanded the war of aggression in Indochina. The leaders of the four parties of the three Indochinese countries participating in the conference exchanged views on the situation in Indochina then and the tasks of common struggle facing the people of the three countries. They reached a complete consensus of views and issued a joint declaration. The conference held high the vivid banner of the war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation and called on the three Indochinese peoples to strengthen unity, fight staunchly, defeat the enemy, and defend the sacred national rights so as to make Indochina a zone of independence and peace which really accords with the aspirations of the people of the three countries and with the interest of Southeast Asian and world peace. [The phrase "defeat the enemy" was omitted in the versions of the editorial carried by Peking NCNA Domestic Service in Chinese at 0705 GMT on 25 April and Peking Domestic Service in Mandarin at 0030 GMT on 25 April.]

I. 25 Apr 73

A 3

PRC  
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

The conference demonstrated the common resolve of the three Indochinese peoples to unite against imperialism, played a vigorous role in bringing about the victorious development in the war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation waged by the Vietnamese, Lao and Cambodian people, and made an important contribution to the anti-imperialist struggle carried out by the people of all countries in the world.

Inspired by the banner of the Indochinese Peoples' Summit Conference, the Vietnamese, Lao and Cambodian people, have in the past three years, through supporting each other and fighting in unity, smashed all the military and political schemes of the U.S. aggressors and their lackeys, and won one great victory after another. On the Vietnam question, the "Agreement on Ending the War and Restoring Peace in Vietnam" was finally signed, forcing the United States to terminate the war of aggression against Vietnam and the troops of the U.S. and its allies to withdraw completely from South Vietnam. On the Lao issue, the "Agreement on Restoring Peace and Achieving National Concord in Laos" has also been signed. The signing of the two agreements has provided conditions for the Vietnamese and Lao people to settle their own problems themselves without foreign interference. In Cambodia, the war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation has developed victoriously, the People's National Liberation Armed Forces have grown stronger and stronger in the course of fighting, the liberated zone has expanded and consolidated steadily, and the prestige of the Royal Government of the National Union of Cambodia has risen daily at home and abroad. But the traitorous Lon Nol clique which launched the reactionary coup d'etat has picked up a stone only to drop it on its own feet and is boxed up in Phnom Penh surrounded on all sides. Cambodian Head of State Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's successful inspection tour of the Cambodian liberated zone not long ago has vigorously inspired the militant will of the Cambodian people to resist U.S. aggression and save their country and speeded up the total collapse of the traitorous Lon Nol clique.

The victorious struggle of the Indochinese peoples in the past three years has fully borne out that the struggle of the Vietnamese, Lao and Cambodian people is an entirely just struggle and their unity is unbreakable. Their national aspirations to strive for the realization of peace, independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity can be hindered by no force. The Indochina question can only be solved by the three Indochinese peoples themselves without foreign interference. Any foreign interference in Indochina will certainly fail.

The three Indochinese peoples are now continuing their effort for the complete attainment of their noble objectives. Although the Paris agreement and the Vientiane agreement were signed two or three months ago, but the ceasefire in Vietnam and Laos has remained unstable and many important provisions of the two agreements have not been fully implemented all because of the acts of the U.S. Government and Saigon authorities. In Cambodia, the U.S. has still not stopped its support to the traitorous Lon Nol clique and its bombing raids on the Cambodian liberated zone, and Saigon puppet troops have even invaded Cambodian territory once again. Facts have shown that the people of the three countries in Indochina have to wage a serious struggle still in order to safeguard peace in Vietnam and Laos, to strictly implement and thoroughly carry out the Paris agreement and the Vientiane agreement, and to materialize completely independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity in Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia.

I. 25 Apr 73

A 4

PRC

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

The Chinese people and the three Indochinese peoples are close comrades-in-arms and brothers. The Chinese people have always fully sympathized with and given wholehearted support to the just struggle of the three Indochinese peoples whose splendid victories in the struggle against U.S. aggression and for national salvation are also a tremendous inspiration and support to the Chinese people. We firmly demand that the U.S. Government and Saigon authorities stop all their acts in violation of the Paris agreement and the Vientiane agreement and that the U.S. Government stop bombing and all its military interference in Cambodia. We resolutely maintain that the three Indochinese peoples should solve their own problems themselves without any foreign interference. We are deeply convinced that, through strengthening unity, supporting each other and persisting in struggle, the three Indochinese peoples will certainly be able to realize their sacred national aspirations.

#### XUAN THUY ARRIVES IN PEKING 24 APR ON WAY HOME

Peking NCNA in English 1622 GMT 24 Apr 73 B

[Text] Peking, April 24, 1973 (HSINHUA)--Minister Xuan Thuy, member of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Vietnam Workers Party and head of the delegation of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam to the Paris conference on Vietnam, arrived here by train this afternoon on his way home.

Present at the railway station to greet him were Keng Piao, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and head of the International Liaison Department of the CCP Central Committee; Han Nien-lung, vice-foreign minister; and leading members of departments concerned Shen Chien, Hsiao Huang, Liang Feng and Mao Pao-chung.

Present were also Ngo Thuyen, DRV ambassador to China, and embassy officials; Tran Binh, charge d'affaires a.i. of the Embassy of the Republic of South Vietnam in Peking, and embassy officials; Toch Kham Doeun, ambassador of the Kingdom of Cambodia to China; and S. Sosorbaram, Mongolian ambassador to China.

This evening, Comrade Keng Piao gave a banquet in honour of Comrade Xuan Thuy and the other Vietnamese comrades-in-arms.

Proposing toasts at the banquet, both Comrades Keng Piao and Xuan Thuy expressed the hope that the revolutionary friendship and militant unity of the Chinese and Vietnamese peoples would grow with each passing day.

#### Meets With Cambodian Leaders

Peking NCNA in English 1224 GMT 25 Apr 73 B

[Text] Peking, April 25, 1973 (HSINHUA)--Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the National United Front of Cambodia, met here today with Minister Xuan Thuy, member of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Vietnam Workers Party and head of the delegation of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam to the Paris conference on Vietnam, and gave a luncheon in his honour. Present were Ngo Thuyen, DRV ambassador to China, and Prince Sisowath Methavi, director of the office of the Cambodian head of state.

[Peking NCNA in English at 1227 GMT on 25 April reported that Penn Nouth, chairman of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the National United Front and prime minister of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia, that morning met with Xuan Thuy. Present on the occasion were Ngo Thuyen and Chea San, minister of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia.]